

The Times
(MORNING, EVENING AND SUNDAY.)
Publication Office.
HUTCHINS BUILDING,
Corner Tenth and D Streets Northwest.
Subscription Rates.
By Mail.
Circulation Statement.

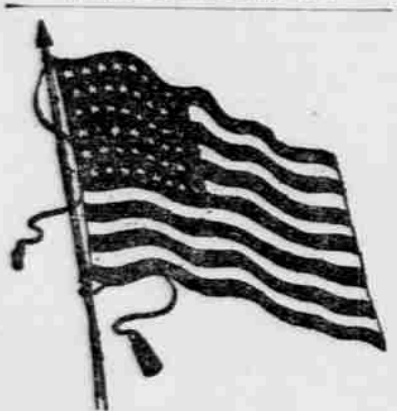
Circulation Statement.

The circulation of THE TIMES for the week ended April 16, 1898, was as follows:	
Sunday, April 10	22,960
Monday, April 11	27,903
Tuesday, April 12	51,959
Wednesday, April 13	57,034
Thursday, April 14	53,995
Friday, April 15	53,947
Saturday, April 16	56,081
Total	353,479
Daily average (Sunday, 22,960, excepted)	55,086

Readers of The Times who may at any time be unable to procure copies of it at any newsstand or railroad station or on railroad train, will confer a favor upon the management by sending to this office information of the fact.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1898.



At Last, Action.
Finally, through their Congress, the American people have spoken. They have delivered their mandate to the President, and he must act. All the tension of delay should now be over. All the Administrative play to escape the inevitable should be abandoned. The die is cast. There is to be war.

It matters little to the American people how it comes. From the morning of the 18th of February, when The Times announced that the Maine had been blown up, and its crew massacred by Spanish treachery, the whole citizenship of America has been demanding vengeance. That vengeance is now decreed. It only remains for the President to obey Congress and ACT UPONCE.

The Times is satisfied. It has won its fight.

Where Are the Armies?
The regular army is fairly supplied with a most miserable failure in the way of a small arm, the Krag-Jorgensen rifle, which was adopted not on account of its merit, but because of valuable reasons which some time we hope may be made the subject of Congressional investigation and exposure. A much better arm, the Lee-Metford, was rejected, and the representatives and presentments of many worthy and able American inventors were treated in such a way as to have created a scandal if the truth could have been given to the public.

The Krag-Jorgensen is clumsy, heavy, liable to get out of order, and in actual use has disclosed itself as very little if any better than the discarded Springfield. Compared with the rifles of the British, French or German armies, it is a joke. It is vastly inferior to the arm invented by a Japanese officer and with which the military force of the Mikado is equipped.

What, then, are we to do for rifles for our infantry volunteers? If we had a more dangerous enemy than Spain to fight this question would be a most serious one. As it is, it is not without an element of anxiety. All told, we might scrape up approximately seventy-five thousand reasonably useful pieces in the country. Then there are Winchester and Remingtons in unknown numbers, but probably thirty-five thousand could be found by hook or crook. After that we must depend upon foreign supplies, or upon the current output of our arsenals and private arm companies. Within a few weeks this might be pushed, all told, to something like a thousand a day.

The outlook is not as depressing as it might be, but only because it has been demonstrated in the Cuban war that the ill-drilled and badly disciplined Spanish troops do not shoot well. For the most part they are armed with the long-range, small-bore Mauser rifle, the bullet from which goes through a man, supposing it hits him, but neither kills nor hurts much unless it penetrates a vital point. In one of the battles against Gomez the Spanish line, on the authority of a foreign officer present on the field, left a window of Mauser cartridges six or eight inches high and a foot wide, and managed to kill three Cubans and wound about twenty in a full day's fight. At the beginning of the war of independence the Cubans had hardly any firearms, yet they were able to clean up columns of column line after line of the Spaniards, practically with their machetes alone, and with remarkably small loss.

So we conclude that, armed with

Springfields, Winchester or Remingtons, even Colts, our troops would be only at a theoretical disadvantage. With battalion flanks protected by Maxim or Gatling, the enemy would not amount to enough to scare a levy of raw country recruits.

But this does not mean that the modern and efficient armament of our regulars and volunteers should not have earnest and instant attention from Congress and the war authorities. We are about to constitute an army; let us have a first-class one while we are about it.

Major General Fitz Lee.
It seems to be understood that on the outbreak of hostilities Gen. Fitzhugh Lee is to be made a major general of volunteers and given command of a division of troops for the invasion of Cuba. The idea is received with enthusiasm everywhere throughout the country, as it ought to be, by none more than by Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, who wants to resign and go on Lee's staff to the front. We are not surprised at that. There is good fighting soldierly stuff in Roosevelt, and he would make his mark in the Army, as, indeed, he would anywhere else. It is doubtful, though, that he could well be spared from his present position. It would be very difficult to replace him with a man equally competent, at short notice, and we are afraid that the naval service would suffer for a time at least.

All true Americans, young and old, want to fight. While the Government is thinking about able and experienced volunteer commanders, it should not forget that the famous Confederate cavalryman, Lieut. Gen. "Joe" Wheeler, has offered his services, and is still comparatively young and absolutely vigorous, and ought to have a commission. The boys from the Gulf States would rush to his standard, and it is worth remembering that they are acclimated soldiers, nearly all with training in military schools, in addition to longer or shorter service in the National Guard.

The Idiocy of Inaction.
Great Britain having issued an order that coal is to be treated as contraband of war, unless we are foolish enough to allow Spain to lay in a huge stock at Porto Rico and elsewhere, from our own mines, the Spanish navy will be compelled to depend upon the Cape Verde Islands as a coaling base. As the islands are thirty-four hundred miles distant from the West Indies, the advantage we naturally have is too precious a thing to be wasted through vacillation and inaction.

There should not be an hour's delay in stopping the shipment of American coal for Spanish account, "unofficially" as that act might seem in Madrid and Havana. But we have, or ought to have, passed the point where we must consider Spanish interests and susceptibilities before the honor of our flag and the success of our arms. Every ton of coal allowed to leave our shores for the use of the Spanish navy is so much equipment given to the enemy with which to fight us and to destroy the lives of our sailors. It is a dastardly outrage upon the American people that to allow the conveyance of practical aid and comfort to their foe.

A President with a Jacksonian backbone would have put an end to such a scandal long ago. Now, at any rate, it should be stopped instantly. An embargo upon coal is as necessary a war measure as the purchase of vessels and arms, or the mobilization of the army on the Southern coast. Situated as we are, there is not another civilized government in the world that would tolerate this coal famine. Is there a reason back of it which would not stand the light of investigation on patriotic grounds? Has any near and dear friend of the Administration a contract to supply coal to both navies? Or is it only because the Spanish demand, in a general way, makes coal mining more profitable just now for some people, that it would be otherwise?

Of course, if any exponent of "our best business interests," with a strong pull, is to be benefited by leaving our markets open to the enemy, nobody ought to object. The thing itself may be seriously detrimental to our prospects, but the approaching battles at sea, by "everyone to his trade!" No men are made to be massacred in friendly harbors, and to be killed in other ways known to treachery or war. Coal operators, on the other hand, are created for the beneficent purposes of starving their miners, and making money out of government contracts, whether with our own or with that of a hostile nation. Therefore, it would be very bad business policy to shut down on Spain officially until after the actual breaking out of war, and even then a good deal might be shipped out on the sly.

In view of another attempt at European intervention in Washington, it is as well to remind Mr. McKinley that he is not endowed with authority to treat with the Congress of Europe. His relations are with the powers, and their representatives separately. The assumption of the corps diplomatique in Washington in holding secret meetings and presuming as a body to interfere in our affairs would be an act of aggression, and would be tolerated for a moment. The President will be ill advised if he connives at any more "friendly calls" or "collective notes." His skirts were not quite as clear on the last occasion as they ought to have been.

The Spanish report on the Maine massacre has much stress upon the allegation that, after the explosion, no dead fish were found in the harbor. But it was full of live sharks and dead American sailors. That is much more to the point and more to the point than the fact that our army and navy got down to work. Remember the Maine!

The Baltimore Herald tells a story with a moral to it which is worth repetition. The story is for the American people; the moral is for the Don. Once an American ship anchored in a Spanish harbor, and the sailors went ashore to have fun. They found fun going to a cock fight, and proceeded to lose most of their money at that time-honored game. Now, this was not fun at all, except for the Spaniards, and they came to the conclusion that the Spaniards had cheated them somehow. They were very indignant, and sought for some method of revenge. After a consultation one of the sailors said: "Let me be an American rooster which he would like to see against the Spanish game-cocks. The Spaniards, elated with victory, agreed with alacrity, and the sailors went back to the ship after the

rooster. There was a half-grown American cock on board the ship, which had been the pet of the crew, and he was selected to play the part of rooster in the coming international drama. Every Spaniard had his last dollar up on the fight. It was a brief one. The eagle merely walked to the Spanish cock, removed its head and chewed up its body scientifically and with delight. The American sailors yelled with rapture. The Spaniards were much amazed. And the moral of this parable may be figured out by any one who chooses to take the trouble.

If General Miles is not mistaken in his prognosis, the plan of campaign contemplates an invasion of Spain as well as of Cuba. If our troops should happen to take Oporto, they will find its docks and warehouses well stocked with California "Port" awaiting reshipment to America. Their presence may interfere with this trade in one of the most genuine of Spanish productions—from our Pacific Coast—and also seriously hamper the traffic in virgin olive oil from the cotton seed mills of the Southern States. But they will find plenty of garlic grown on the premises, and that is strong enough to go a long way.

The attention of that worthy institution, the W. C. T. U., is called to the flagrant case of alcoholic possession directed by Senator Proctor of Vermont in the Senate on Saturday. The W. C. T. U. is such a comprehensive organization that we have no doubt of its eagerness or ability to take this in as well as all other subjects which possibly can be supposed to interest any section of humanity. It appears that a creature, rejoicing in the name of McGuff, as American consul at Cienfuegos, Cuba, according to Senator Proctor, existed in the pocket of the Spanish sugar man of Massachusetts. "It was told," says the senator, "that Mr. McGuff was very generous with certain stimulating beverages which had a lubricating effect upon the consul's mind and tongue." Go for Atkins, ladies! He is the properest kind of meat for the butcher-knife of your activity and animosity. As for the depraved McGuff, let the Tennessee section of your female "Vehme Gerlich" sit upon him until he signs the pledge.

When the military and civil authorities of so important a place as Malaga, in Spain, are unable to prevent the wrecking of the American consulate by a mob, or the dragging of our national coat of arms through the mud and filth of the streets, it is high time for a suspension of diplomatic relations. All of our representatives in the kingdom, whether diplomatic or consular, ought to be leaving Spain today, as fast as they can find the means of travel. The inevitable having come, there is imminent danger from Spanish bloodthirstiness and treachery. Remember the Maine!

GRIEF CAUSES SUICIDE.

A Woman Could Not Understand Congressional Delay and Dishonor.
New York, April 18.—Mrs. Sarah Wray, seventy years old, was found dead in bed this morning, at No. 403 Macdon Street, Brooklyn. She had committed suicide by inhaling illuminating gas through a tube, one end of which she clenched tightly in her teeth, while the other end was securely fastened to a gas burner.

The only reason assigned today for the suicide is the woman's chagrin over the failure of the United States Government to avenge the sinking of the battleship Maine in a Spanish harbor. For two months Mrs. Wray's intimates have been grieving over the destruction of the Maine and fretted because the Government has failed to uphold the honor of America in the way she believed the occasion demanded. The conduct of Spain toward the United States and Cuba was her constant theme, and as the days passed without action, her grief increased daily until it developed into a settled melancholy.

Mrs. Wray retired last night as usual late, and she had been in a comfortable and cheerful mood. She was in a neat two-story house jointly with the family of William H. Lynch. She was married, but her husband does not reside in the house.

Toward daylight this morning Mr. Lynch was awakened by a choking sensation. He arose and at once concluded that some gas was in the room, and in some section in the house. After going through his own apartment without finding the leak, he traced the odor to Mrs. Wray's room.

He knocked at the door. There was no response, and he forced his way into the room. There he saw the aged woman lying on the bed, and he found her firmly held in her mouth. She was dead, and her body was already cold, and it was evident that she had expired many hours before he found her.

At the home of the Lynchs today, Mr. Lynch's son, who was inclined to discuss Mrs. Wray's affairs, was dissuaded by a young woman, a daughter of Congress, who said that the death of Mrs. Wray was not a public matter. The police and coroner were notified and the latter will probably view the body this afternoon.

MR. BRYAN IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Familiarizing Himself With the Industrial Situation.
Wilkes-Barre, April 18.—William J. Bryan got to Wilkes-Barre on his tour of the coal and iron regions of Pennsylvania today, and stayed only a few hours. He was met at the Lehigh Valley depot at 1:30 p. m. by delegations of Democratic clubs from Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, and Scranton, and with a brass band at their head, was escorted to the armory, where he held a reception.

In reply to urgent calls for a speech, Mr. Bryan made a short address. Tomorrow he will speak in Allentown, and on Wednesday, probably, in Hazleton and Pottsville. From Pottsville he intends to go over into Clearfield County, to try his luck at trout fishing, in company with seven Schuylkill and Clearfield County politicians. After he has left the anthracite coal district, it is said that he will visit the bituminous regions in quest of direct information upon the industrial situation there.

TO PURCHASE A FLEET.

America Still Negotiating for Canadian Vessels.
Montreal, April 18.—The United States Government is in negotiation with the Beaver Steamship Company for the purchase of its fleet. The fleet is composed of the steamers Lake Ontario, 4,201 tons; Lake Huron, 3,296 tons; Lake Superior, 4,601 tons; and Lake Huron, 4,900 tons. The price offered is said to be about \$500,000 each.

The Lake Ontario is 374 feet in length by 41 in width and has a speed of fourteen knots. The Lake Huron is 280 feet long, 44 broad and has a speed of 11-1/2 knots. The Lake Superior is 390 feet by 44 feet by 25 feet and has a speed of 15 knots and the Lake Huron is 255 feet by 44 feet and has a speed of 11 knots.

Only One Nation—America.

(From the St. Paul Dispatch.)
Spain is depending largely on the assistance of the "Southern Confederates" in her calculations. There hasn't been a Southern Confederate in the United States for twenty-eight years.

ECHOES FROM ABROAD.

There is a disposition to give more heed to the utterances of Don Carlos than to the utterances of the pretender. The pretender is not without their effect. The Spanish nation is one of barons, and the man strikes the popular imagination. There has been a feeling of unrest as a result of Don Carlos's recent manifestos.

This unrest is not with the public. It is manifested in ministerial circles and at the palace, where the queen and her boy are no doubt filled with dismay at the turn which affairs are taking in the kingdom. The threat of Don Carlos to find men who will defend the national honor, should the Sagasta ministry bow to the demands of the United States, has with its effect upon the military. The government fears the result, no matter what the outward demeanor of the members of the cabinet may be. Gen. Weyler is being sent to Cuba, and it is expected that the fighting, which was reported yesterday to have taken place between the Spanish and insurgents in Cuba, probably occurred before the armistice went into effect.

The rioting in front of the United States consulate in Malaga is a symptom of the threatening condition of affairs in Spain, as well as of hostility toward America. In the latter sense it is puerile, but as a revolt against the United States, it has a graver meaning. In several other Spanish cities the mob spirit showed itself last week. The government is drifting into war with signs of outbreak at home, and this only feeling will grow as the difficulties of the situation multiply. The more the sentiment in Spain takes the form of rioting the harder it will be to prosecute a foreign war with any effective purpose.

Don Carlos, who, in his manifesto a day or two ago, condemned the delay in avenging "Spain's honor" to the enervating femininity of the queen regent, who he declares to be responsible for the alleged temporizing policy which has been pursued with regard to the United States, has signally failed to give any practical proof to his loud and passionate professions. He has been content to give the penny piece to the defense of his country.

In fact, in his manifesto he declares that all that he can do is to give his prayers for the success of the Spanish arms and a permission to his adherents in Spain to fight for their country against the United States. He does not say a word about the money, and it is free from all charges of the kind that weigh upon the queen regent, who has given 1,000,000 pesetas.

It is officially stated in Madrid that there are at the present moment over 100,000 Spanish troops in Cuba—the Herald says 200,000—who possess the advantage of being insured to the enervating climate of the Atlantic, and who are, above all, anxious to rush to the aid of the American soldiers who have little or no conception. In the United States, and in many of the countries of the Old World, the military authorities are taken to assure the welfare and the comforts of the soldiers. But this is not the case with Spanish soldiers, who, owing to the lack of the United States military department, and to the indifference of the commanding officers, have to fight under the most disadvantageous conditions.

Old Cuban campaigners point out that, providing any stand is made against American invasion, and the hostilities prolonged beyond a fortnight or three weeks, the United States troops will become altogether demoralized by the climate, and by the conditions of Cuban life, which are altogether out of keeping with American ideas of comfort and sanitation. Then, too, whereas the Spanish soldiers have made up for the lack of elementary military training by training by experience which the singularly difficult and arduous campaigning against the insurgents has given them, the American troops are practically without experience of active service, save such a few hundred at the most may have acquired in chasing the redskins in the West.

Gen. Weyler, in fact, does not make any concealment of his convictions that any superiority which the American soldiers might possess in the use of modern equipment and in physique unimpaired by fever or hardship will be more than counterbalanced by the superior experience and endurance of the Cuban troops, who are possessed of real fighting, and campaigning of the most difficult kind.

These views are confirmed by Commander Sobral, the former naval attaché of the Spanish legation at Washington, and likewise by ex-Minister Dupuy de Lome, at whose suggestion possibly the Excmo. Militar has published a translation almost in full of the speech which Gen. McClellan's son heard him make in the Chamber of Deputies, showing the lamentable weakness of the organization and training of the United States Army. The appearance of a woman, a daughter of Congress, who said that the death of Mrs. Wray was not a public matter, the police and coroner were notified and the latter will probably view the body this afternoon.

Nothing is any longer expected in Madrid in the shape of assistance or intervention from the foreign powers. But Spain at least has the satisfaction of feeling that she enters upon the war against America with the good will of every continental power, who would willingly see the United States humbled by this country. America, however, has been so to speak, in the unknown quantity in international politics, and precisely on account of this ignorance, an ignorance of which the people on the other side of the Atlantic have no conception, there has been a certain amount of fear and apprehension as to what she might or might not be able to do. This doubt is about to be solved by Spain, and one thing may be said in Madrid to the effect that the United States will prove in the end to have just as much of a heavier image with clay feet as the United States has in the past.

It is difficult to conceive the extraordinary animosity, nay, execration, which is meted out to the United States by the class against the Americans, and it is growing hourly. This expression in the most abominable insults, which are every day being hurled at the United States, is the most direct evidence of the fact that in almost every issue of the metropolitan and provincial newspapers, "Yankee" is one of the mildest epithets used. It is never at any time has a nation gone to war with so much satisfaction and with such force-hatred ranking in the breasts of the people as there is here against the United States. In fact, if matters are delayed at Washington much longer, Sagasta will be forced to abandon his program of peace, and will be compelled by popular sentiment to assume the initiative in declaring war.

The Madrid government has resolved to send across the fleet in one combined squadron, sufficiently powerful to be able to defy any resistance, save on the part of the united naval forces of the United States. It is for this reason that, in view of the rumors of the intention of the sailing of the two flotillas from Cape Verde for Porto Rico, there is strong ground for the belief that the combined fleet will remain at Cape Verde for a few days longer, in order to wait for further reinforcements. But it is difficult to speak with any degree of precision upon the subject, as considerable secrecy is observed about all naval movements.

SPANIARDS LEAVE OUR SHORES.

The Olive Carries a Cargo of Doom to Havana.
Tampa, Fla., April 18.—The exodus of Spaniards from here, which has been threatening ever since the relations between the two countries became so strained, materialized today, and at 2 o'clock this afternoon the steamer Olivette sailed from Port Tampa with several hundred of them on board. The Spanish consul here attempted to charter an Austrian tramp steamer which arrived in port Saturday, but the master refused the offer made by Senor Sols. Then it was that President Plant was appealed to, and he offered the Olivette to take the refugees as far as Havana on their way to Spain, where most of them are bound.

Consul Sols and President Plant personally saw the refugees off and took their names as they went aboard tonight. Gov. Hoxworth wired the inspector general of Florida State troops in this city, that the remaining Spaniards need not be alarmed for their personal safety, as he would provide for their protection in any and all emergencies.

It is, therefore, expected that several companies of militia will be held in readiness to quell any disturbances which the hatred between the Cubans and Spaniards might occasion.

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AZCARRAGA EXPECTS WAR.

Spanish Press Abandons Hope of European Assistance.
Madrid, April 18.—Gen. Azcarraga, formerly minister of war, who has arrived in Madrid for the purpose of attending the opening of the Cortes, declares that, in his opinion, war between Spain and the United States is inevitable.

Liberal. In an article in the situation, says that any nation attempting to support Spain and opposing the United States, would suffer the gravest consequences to its essential interests. "After all," the paper continues, "it is a point of international morality that our first duties are owed to ourselves. Nothing can be expected from the United States, and the first shot in proximity to their territories or waters they would fear an extension of the conflagration. They would feel obliged to refrain from continuing it as they now profess, but would approach with the means of quenching it."

The price of wheat is rising again and now exceeds \$3 a bushel.

AN IMPORTANT CONTRACT.

America Company to Furnish Rails for Trans-Siberian Railway.
Baltimore, April 18.—The American Steel Company has secured the contract to furnish rails for the great Trans-Siberian Railway. The deal involves a considerable sum of money, and to carry out the provisions of the contract a large additional force of workmen will have to be employed.

By the terms made with the Russian government, the rails are to be shipped during the next three months. This will require the greatest activity at the works, and all of the large furnaces will be taxed to their utmost capacity. The shipments of the rails will be made at Shidlovsk, the Eastern Asiatic terminus of the railway.

There are at present 1,300 men at work, making a full force. Another furnace will be added, and this will necessitate the employment of 50 additional men.

REFUSE SPANISH OFFERS.

English Ship Owners Decline to Sell Vessels to Spain.
London, April 18.—The Great Western Railway Company has refused an offer made by the Spanish government to purchase the channel steamers Roebuck and Reindeer, belonging to the company, at a price of \$150,000 above the value of the vessels.

Similar offers made to steamer owners at Fleetwood and Belfast have also been refused.

Liverpool shippers are complaining that the crisis is being caused by Spanish water was coming out of their ports, and that was inflammatory rheumatism, but have since learned it was caused by starvation.

CROKER TO GO ABROAD.

Will Sail for England on Saturday.
New York, April 18.—Richard Croker, leader of Tammany Hall, announced today that he would sail for England on Saturday on the steamer Campania. He said that he had important business interests abroad, and that he would sail on Saturday, if war was declared before that day.

"I can return in thirty days, however, if my services are required by my country or by any party," Mr. Croker added.

"I shall certainly be back by August or before, in time to take part in the State campaign."

Fell Five Stories.

New York, April 18.—A freight elevator in the Hotel Beresford, at Eighty-first Street and Central Park West, fell five stories this morning and severely injured several persons who were on the car. The car was slightly broken, and the men were badly hurt.

The car was Patsy Mulken, the elevator man, three waiters and a messenger boy, Frank Murphy by name. How the accident occurred is not known, but it is said that the car was descending its speed suddenly increased and then, as one of the witnesses said, it seemed to drop.

The elevator boy, who clung to the rope, had his hands frightfully torn by trying to cling to the wire, and the waiters were badly cut and bruised. An ambulance took them to Roosevelt Hospital, where their wounds were dressed. None was fatally injured. The accident caused great excitement in the hotel.

Played the Wrong Tune.

From the Omaha World-Herald.
It was a big house on St. Charles Avenue. The rooms were full of the fragrance of orange blossoms and the more delicate perfumes that emanates from fluff, flowing dresses of young women. It was just after 10 o'clock, and a buzz of congratulations came from the front parlors. In the hall the musicians were resting. The young lady pianist, mistaking the fingers of her right hand to run gently over the keys, unconsciously the notes resolved themselves into a popular air. "Good gracious, don't play that," cried a young man, rushing out of the parlor. "The music is not a young lady frightened. The young man laughed. "That's the marriage of the Chinese and the coon," he said.

SPANISH SPIES.

New York, April 18.—A special from Key West to the Telegram reads:
"Key West is full of Spanish spies who are in communication with their government. They are seeking information about the fleet, about the location of mines, and about the movements of our war vessels when they move against Spanish sovereignty in Cuba."

"Whether we have the same espionage in Cuba I have no means of knowing, but it is to be hoped that such is the case. It is of the utmost importance to know what is going on in the more important harbors in the matter of preparations for defense, to know whether the Spanish policy of leaving the land forces to repel invasion has been changed, to learn whether the abandonment of President McKinley's humane resolve to feed or fight has resulted during the last eleven days in the wholesale mortality that is suspected."

"On this point a particularly well informed gentleman who came out of Cuba with Gen. Lee, writes:

"No person can picture the horrors of the reconcentrados in the prisons now. Those poor women and children have been without any outside relief for now eleven days. God knows how much more time will be wanted by the President and Congress before relief can go in, but the picture drawn by the edited consular reports was so ghastly that the whole world is miserably and want prevalent now."

"In the meantime Gomez and Garcia are more active than ever. If American troops land in Havana, every Spaniard will send word to Gomez, a courier could take it in about five days. Then three more days would be required to carry it on to Garcia."

"A new plan of operations being considered by army and navy, I am told, is necessary to the practical withdrawal of the Spanish naval force from the Antilles."

"The impression gains ground that Spain will not give our navy battle in the Caribbean waters. What the new plan is I am not permitted to say, but until Spain's fleet is destroyed it will be regarded as a menace to the United States fleet as well as to the sea coast of the United States."

"To naval minds it is clear that Spain is endeavoring to tempt us to give her battle at sea far away from our base of supplies. We may accept the challenge, as we may move directly on the seacoast cities of Spain."

"If we move against Spain it would only be done in the hope that the harder blow we should strike the more quickly would the war be over."

HORRORS OF LOS FOSOS.

Mrs. Lily Pullman Tells of Things Seen While Aiding the Starving.
Mrs. Lily Pullman, a friend of Miss Clara Barton, who has been engaged in the relief of the reconcentrados in Havana, and elsewhere in Cuba, sends to the New York World the following account of her experiences:

"On the day when Blanco issued his order forbidding any Americans, but the Red Cross nurses to view the Fosos, Miss Annie Goodyear asked me to go with her to help her feed two poor old reconcentrados. We took a bottle of water and a can of condensed milk, a glass and a spoon, and proceeded down the Prado to Los Fosos."

"In the yard were about fifty men for whom there was no place inside. They lay on the ground with their coats rolled under their heads for pillows, and in spite of the objections of the attendants, we entered the building and found perhaps one hundred men sleeping on the bare floor in their clothes with their heads resting on their arms, or on a bed of straw, nothing but the protection of a roof, which only served to condense into a loathsome feldness the breaths of so many human beings crowded together, and there lay a little naked orphan child snuggled on a corner of a coat which some man had brought in from the street, and half gradually consumed."

"Walking around in the places where we could find a footing, and climbing over others, assisted by the light of a candle kindly handed us by an attendant, as the men's quarters is unlighted, we found in the farthest end the women were only to be seen in the shadows, and in chemise and skirts, and the only articles they possessed in the world, which served as their only covering by day or night. Emaciated, and with shadows with trembling hands they reached up and took the milk which Miss Goodyear handed them, after she had diluted it by pouring the water from the bottle into the glass which I held."

"From them we proceeded to care for an old man whose piteous moans were simply heartrending. He had been nothing for two days. When we tried to feed him he could hardly swallow and sobbed like a baby who has had too much to eat."

"Never mind feeding me," he said. "Do me the favor to do something for my feet. They pain me so." They were swollen to twice their natural size, and water was coming out of their tips. It was inflammatory rheumatism, but have since learned it was caused by starvation."

"I went back to the hotel and got some salt water and a piece of soap, and was sure would relieve the poor creature; but despite my entreaties in Spanish, as the doctor was there, although I showed him it was only an external remedy and could do no harm if it could do no good, permission to use it was stubbornly refused until he should be removed to the hospital, which they assured us should be done next day, and we were compelled reluctantly to abandon him to his fate."

"The women were in a state of such a stupor that they were unable to take any food, and there were some without shoes or bedding other than an old blanket, still it was better than the floor. Some of the women were naked. I cannot say that they were not sleeping that way on account of the heat. The food was in the hands of the attendants, and I suppose, removed to the kitchen. The Cuban even go so far as to say that some have been hustled into them before they breathed their last, but I can't guarantee the veracity of this statement."

Mixed Up.

(From the New York Mail and Express.)
News from Pennsylvania indicates that John Wamamaker will not swallow Quay and that Quay will not swallow Wamamaker. Hence, there's trouble.

Where Protective Duties Are Proper.

(From the Philadelphia Times.)
As against that of a Douglas character, protection of the opposite sex is duty all American may conscientiously vote for.

In Ball Costume, as It Were.

(From the Philadelphia Times.)
Contrary to the rule, when warships are stripped for battle it may be said they are undressed to kill.

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